



May 9, 2012

**Ursuline Academy of Dallas Responds To
Recent Remarks by Melinda French Gates '82**

Melinda French Gates '82 spoke about birth control at the TEDxChange conference in Berlin on April 5. In those remarks, and in a related article appearing in this week's edition of Newsweek magazine, Melinda Gates also refers to her Ursuline education. We wish to share with you the following response by Ursuline Academy:

We are proud of Melinda French Gates, her dedication to social justice, her compassion for the underserved, and the great work of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Melinda Gates leads from her conscience, and acts on her beliefs as a concerned citizen of our world.

The mission of Ursuline Academy of Dallas is to educate young women for such leadership. The spiritual formation of our students emphasizes Catholic social teaching and service to the poor and others in need. We encourage our students and our graduates to take part in public dialogue about important world issues.

As a Catholic educational ministry, Ursuline is committed to the moral and doctrinal teachings of the Catholic Church. We recognize that Melinda's beliefs on birth control are different from those of the Catholic Church. We respect her right, however, to speak from her research and experience of the world we live in.

*Office of the President
Sister Margaret Ann Moser, O.S.U.*

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